

# THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL,

OR,

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### St. Andrew's Meeting.

Our wish is at length gratified in being able to repeat from the Times of yesterday, the Editor's Report of the Meeting of St. Andrew's. We are not like some of our fellow labourers, too timid to lead, and too proud to follow. Wherever conviviality, national attachment, eloquent truths, and above all just and liberal doctrines are found to prevail, we are glad to report them; and we leave to our jealous contemporaries the sullen satisfaction of having withheld the exultation which they ought to have felt and expressed in the repetition of valuable truths, to vent their pointless envy on those who are not ashamed to glory in them.

Our readers will find in the Report of the Editor of the Times, a strong confirmation of the fidelity of our own, as far as it went. That Editor, however, is always too consistent a Friend of Liberty to omit the mention of any thing which can strengthen its cause, in however many other Papers it may have been done before him, and this instance we prefer following his excellent example, and repeating even some portion of what our readers have before seen, to breaking the unity or lessening the interest of the Report in the smallest degree.—It is as follows:—

To state, as we have already done it by anticipation, that Mr. FERGUSSON was in the Chair at the celebration of the Anniversary of St. Andrew, on Tuesday evening, would be certainly saying in other and less words, that he presided there with all the dignity suitable to a national meeting, and with all the sprightliness which a convivial occasion demanded. We might also add, that no memory could retain what dropped from the various speakers, and that in default of memory, the powers of our own imagination could not supply the beautiful or witty things uttered by some of them. We are conscious, we are hopeful, that these preliminary statements will prove the best excuse for the deficiencies of our present report; but we scarcely conceive how they could have dispensed us altogether with an attempt at least at a more detailed narrative—how they could have paid our debt of gratitude for the gratification which we have received—or sufficed to fill our duty towards those readers, who are aware that the same sort of proceedings held in successive years may derive some distinctive peculiarities from changing and immediate circumstances, and who love to be informed how talent has known to avail itself even of these particularities however minute and transient, in order to enhance the interest of its exertions and move and direct and command the sensibilities of an audience.

The company consisted, as far as we could judge, of about three hundred persons; since the two rows of tables extended from one end of the Town Hall to the other, besides the two cross-tables of the President and Vice President, and were all full. JOHN ADAM, Esq. and ROBERT SPANKIE, Esq. acted as Vice Presidents, the former occupying the chair opposite to that of the President. The following were the toasts officially proposed on the occasion.

#### TOASTS.

The Pious Memory of St. Andrew, { 'Loch Eric side,' and 'St. Andrew's  
drew, { Day's the morning.'  
The Immortal Memory of Sir { 'Scots who hae wi' Wallace bled,'  
William Wallace, { and 'The Garb of old Gaul.'  
The Kirk of Scotland, { 'Less gin I come near ye,' and  
{ 'While o'er the lave o't.'  
The King, { 'God save the King,' and 'Neil Gow's  
{ Recovery.'  
The Prince Regent, { 'The Prince of Wales,' and 'Bre-  
{ chin Castle.'  
The Duke of Clarence, and the { 'Rule Britannia,' and 'Hearts of Oak.'  
Navy, {  
The Duke of York, and the { 'Duke of York's March,' and 'Neil  
Army, { Gow's Wye.'  
The Marquis of Hastings, Go- { 'Lord Moin's welcome to Scotland,'  
vernor General, { and 'Eringo Braugh.'  
The Marchioness of Hastings, { 'The Bonniest Lass in a' the world,'  
{ and 'You're welcome to our Town.'  
Our Friends from the Thames, { 'Merry may ye a' be,' and 'Tulloch  
and the Shannon, who now { Gorum,' or 'May Peace and Plen-  
honor us with their presence. { ty be their Lot.'

#### TUNES.

The Bengal Army .... { 'Briton's Strike Home,' and  
{ 'Dumbarton Drums.'  
Sir Edward Hyde East, and the { 'For a' that and a' that,' and 'When  
Bench, { bidden to the Wake or Fair.'  
The Ladies of the Settlement, { 'John come kiss me now,' and 'My  
{ Love she's but a Lassie yet.'  
The Beggar's Bannison, { —With appropriate Tunes.  
The auld Scottish Nation, { 'Leslie's March,' and 'The Came-  
{ ronian Rant.'

In introducing the first toast, THE PRESIDENT adverted to the two years elapsed since the Caledonians had met in the same place to celebrate the memory of their favorite saint, but observed at the same time that they could never assemble at a period more glorious to the name of Scotland, as there had been none when her sons had been more famed in the field either of war, of politics, of philosophy, or of literature.

These patriotic feelings were expressed with additional fervor, when the President engaged the attention of his hearers to the essential difference that existed between Robert Bruce who fought for a crown and the gallant Sir William Wallace who fought and bled for his country.

The President was then happy to think that he did not run the risk of giving rise to any possible schism, whatever might be the persuasion of his numerous audience, and that they must have indeed no persuasion at all who could be heretics or infidels to THE KIRK OF SCOTLAND.

The fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh toasts were prefaced with equally appropriate addresses. The Prince Regent was congratulated on the good fortune or merits which had crowded more extraordinary, important, and illustrious events within an administration of ten years than many monarchs had been able to do during the longest reigns—the Navy, on having, through their very exploits, left themselves no enemies, consequently no more objects of trophies. The reduction of the salaries of these valiant and valuable defenders of their country was deprecated. Those who had done full service should not be reduced to half pay.—The Duke of York, on having at last conquered the infamous league who had conspired against his honor and peace; of the Army it could be said that no army of any European nation had shone of late with greater lustre, since it had finally vanquished those who previous to this victory were deservedly reckoned the first soldiers of Europe.

The more arduous though not more meritorious deeds of OUR GOVERNOR GENERAL had been already adverted to in the preceding Caledonian Meeting; they had long since, besides, accomplished their equally glorious and beneficial end; and in the enjoyment of the repose which they had procured, one could hardly revert to the wisdom which had planned or to the valor which had achieved them, and to the labor and danger which they had cost. But although so exalted a conduct was altogether above praise, the President could not help offering his due homage to those late acts of benevolent and superior policy which obtruded themselves on his admiration. In facing, dividing, scattering and ultimately laying prostrate the enemies of the British Empire in India, the Marquis of Hastings had done what was highly deserving of thankful praise, but what some other distinguished heroes had equally performed before him. But he had no sooner done running this brilliant race of glory in common with many other worthies of past and present times, than taking example from no one but himself, he had done that which should be an example to every ruler, every country and to future ages—that which entitled him to the gratitude of Mankind and Posterity. He had in some kind descended from the height of power and glory in order to enable those who were subordinate to him in every respect to approach him: he had as it were introduced them into his cabinet; he had (uncompelled, unprovoked, unsolicited)—unfolded his policy to those whose confidence had promoted, whose obedience had executed it; he had pointed out and explained the motives and the progress of measures which the most splendid and complete success had already sanctioned; he had in short rendered a clear and faithful account of his administration to those who had never seen, never heard of the like, and whose safety and happiness furnished already the best proof of his potent wisdom. This, as already stated had never been done before; and the President hesitated not to point it out as

an illustrious instance of that true magnanimity which is the sure characteristic of a great mind. His Lordship had brought out to public notice those mysteries which had hitherto been always locked up in red and green boxes. They had been regularly left to moulder in the archives of Government and in the offices of the Secretaries either here or in Leaden-Hall Street, until, after a lapse of many years, when the generation whose exploits and whose councils they recorded were themselves past away, some future Annalist might be permitted to inspect them and to write the events of the past age. Lord Hastings had strictly preserved secrecy while secrecy was necessary to the consummation of his plans, but when the period of action was finished, when the war was over, he had unveiled his plans, and laid them before the Public,—the President would repeat it.—THE PUBLIC OF CALCUTTA.

LORD HASTINGS had done more. His candor had invited from every quarter the discussion of his whole conduct: he had spontaneously submitted himself to the eventual animadversions of those whom he governed; he had provoked a general and free inquiry into those measures through which war had been carried from one end of India to the other, the native princes humbled and disarmed, and new provinces added to the Indo-British Empire. He had broken every fetter that weighed upon the Indian Press—fettters for which, as his predecessors alone had wrought and rivetted them, he could not apprehend the shadow of censure. Not that the President believed that the Noble Marquis had thereby bestowed any gift on his fellow-creatures. Not at all so; and the Noble Marquis himself had never meant, since he had never mentioned, such a gift. Attend to his words! The expressions of this benevolent statesman had on this important occasion been poised with all the accuracy, the modesty, the caution of a philosopher. "He had merely removed the shackles which impeded the exertions of the Indian Press." But the statement, the observance of theories however correct must not, resumed the ingenious and discriminating President, induce him to be inattentive to positive circumstances, nor prevent his offering a full tribute of praise where it was so justly due. The natives indeed of this empire, both through the right of nature and the enactments of the English law, were fully possessed of the Liberty of the Press; but the British-born subjects had been deprived of it in this country by special, colonial, local regulations. To them it might almost be said that the Noble Marquis had given it. Then he had thought it unjust to debar from what was within the reach of their Indian fellow-subjects. To them in fact had the Noble Marquis thought it highly advisable and urgent to restore one of the peculiar privileges and blessings of their native land. The restraint was ILLEGAL. The President repeated it—IT WAS ILLEGAL.

The Governor General was himself well aware of its true character, he knew that it was an assumption of Power not warranted by Law; and besides he saw that it was vain! Lord Hastings well knew that this arbitrary authority could not reach that numerous and increasing class of the descendants of Europeans who were growing in consequence (and the President was glad to see it), and who now formed a considerable and most respectable part of the population in Calcutta. In thus placing the subject in its true light, they must not imagine that he undervalued the obligation of all to the Governor General. No, they ought to be most grateful to his Lordship for the generosity and readiness with which he had granted this Freedom. With the wisdom of a great Statesman, he yielded to the force of opinion, and by following the march of improvement directed his course; he bestowed with frankness what he saw it had become unwise and impolitic to withhold. If this seemed too simple or too mean a praise, the President begged of Gentlemen to reflect on how many great occasions, and by how many Governments this simple act of prudence and wisdom had been neglected and despised. He had been told by some who felt a confused alarm at this New Liberty of the Press, "that it might do in any other State (so its adversaries said in every country), but then in India! What will be the consequence if the natives read the Public Journals!" Well—and if they do, have the natives no eyes! have they no ears? are they ignorant that they are many and that we are few? Are they to learn that our empire here is an EMPIRE OF OPINION! They know all this well, and they know that our power is exerted for their protection and their benefit. It rests on the strongest foundation, on the true ground on which all power should rest, on the sure conviction felt by the Governed, that their happiness is studied and promoted by their Rulers. There were other topics on which the President could wish to dwell; but if he were to expatiate as he was inclined to do upon the wisdom and mildness of Lord Hastings's rule, the gentlemen would not get another glass of wine that night.

The above is of course the mere substance of this eloquent speech, the longest which the President pronounced on that evening. Had we been able to record here its every word, it would still be impossible to impart to our readers the tones, the gestures, the looks which contributed so much to its impressive effect. It was easy to perceive that this worthy admirer of Sir William Wallace was touching fast upon the subject the most congenial to his feelings. He rose up to the full height and sublimity of it with a facility that was bordering upon homogenous nature; and his athletic form, animated countenance, and whole exal-

tation, imparted something fantastic to his appearance at that moment, which made him look, as it were, the Genius of Intelligence and Liberty hovering upon the Indian regions, and dissipating with torrents of light the mist of superstitious and despotic ages.

COLONEL DOYLE returned thanks in the name of his illustrious relative.

The MARCHIONESS OF HASTINGS and Countess of Loudon was offered to the attention of the Meeting, not only as the worthy consort of a great and popular ruler, but also as the noble descendant of a long line of Scotch patriotic worthies.

The VISITORS FROM THE THAMES AND THE SHANNON were cheered as friends. The three nations then present were congratulated on the total eradication of former feuds, and on their ultimate and lasting union. If something were wanting to the perfection of this picture of concord and happiness, it was on the side of Ireland; but all her sons would no doubt soon participate in the fulness of these political advantages to which they were entitled.

The BENGAL ARMY, like the English Navy, had driven every foe before them and condemned themselves to leisure.

The MADRAS AND BOMBAY Armies were subsequently joined in this toast to the Bengal Army, at the request of a military gentleman whose name we could not ascertain.

From the allusion to the deeds of War, the President was happy to revert to the arts of Peace. He had till then, in his official capacity, adverted to several subjects which he had no doubt many of his hearers knew much better than himself. He would now enter upon one with which he presumed to be better acquainted than most of them. SIR EDWARD HYDE EAST had been prevented by indisposition from honouring them with his presence. SIR FRANCIS MACNAGHTEN had as it were stolen away from their applause. Sir Francis was such a man that, if the President ever chanced to meet a better and more honest one, he would not fail to inform them of it. But there was still present one valuable member of the Indian Bench, whom he would not name. It might appear professional prejudice and partiality in the President; but he declared it as his sincere conviction that from the present Judges of the Supreme Court nothing could ever be expected but perfect justice.

SIR ANTHONY BULLER returned thanks for the Indian Bench.

The LADIES OF THE SETTLEMENT were toasted with that general delight and animation, that never fails to mark the passage from any exertions the least restricted or fashioned by positive and conventional forms, to those which demand merely the expression of the purest and most earnest feelings of nature. The President was not old; a little however of the flower of youth had passed from him. Such as he was or might become he would ever be at the ladies' command.

One part of the reputed and popular "Beggars' Bannison" he could not well explain to them at that place; although he had been received a Knight of that illustrious order some thirty years before, and sincerely wished he could officiate as such for thirty years to come. Some of them had probably still greater pretensions; some less, and some perhaps too were at the end of theirs. Whenever this might be the case and the innominal part of the subject failed them, he hoped they would find some compensation in that which he could name, and that they would console themselves with their purse.

The last toast was prepared with local allusions and national appeals to which we do not think ourselves qualified to do justice. We only recollect that the President took occasion from it to mention that Lord Hastings had received full powers from the HIGHLAND SOCIETY to establish a Correspondent Highland Society in Calcutta. The denomination of Highland was however, he apprehended, an unfortunate misnomer; for the fact was, that every part of Scotland without exception had benefitted by the exertion of the Highland Society. This was not the time to call for their contributions; but he hoped that they would show themselves with regard to this subject and to every other the true sons of the "Auld Scottish Nation."

We prudently abstained from enfeebling our humble statements by the interpolative mention of the many tokens of approbation from the part of the auditory, which accompanied all along the delivery of the addresses, an idea of which we have just endeavoured to give to our readers. Our President of course was but animated by such interruptions. He gratefully returned some piece of playful wit or of generous sentiment for every about indicative of their satisfaction; and the effect of the thunder of his eloquence, so frequently greeted by the thunder of their applause, may have reminded some of them of the awful coruscant meteor occasionally rolling and flashing o'er Loch Lomond, or echoed through the Grampian hills.

Then followed a series of unofficial toasts, some issuing from the chair, and some being proposed by several of the guests. We recollect the memory of Lord MINTO who as a good Scotchman had exerted himself to the utmost though in vain to go and die in his native land; also the health of Sir JAMES MACKINTOSH the Parliamentary emulè of the ever-to-be-lamented Sir Samuel Romilly—both from



the military gentleman to whom we have here above alluded. We are sorry that something or other prevented our hearing this speaker sufficiently for attempting here any report of what he said. His very appropriate sentiments seemed to us to be embellished with refined expressions and poetical imagery; and a certain deficiency of limb spoke as much in favor of his professional character, as the substance and form of every thing he said bore witness to the high cultivation of his mind.

The health of Mr. SPANKIE was, with a well turned eulogy, given from the chair.

Mr. SPANKIE, in returning thanks, observed that it was a late hour, and that having freely partaken of the pleasures of conviviality, he had become rather less fit, than he could well wish, for duly acknowledging the compliment that was paid him.

He was soon however on his legs again, when he thought that, as they were mentioning very fast every good Scotchman dead or alive, they should not forget one who was as good as any of them and to whom Scotland was indebted for the late introduction of the Trial by Jury in civil cases; especially as this admirable institution, being of English origin, it could have never overcome Scotch prejudices, but through the recommendation of a respectable Scotchman. The meritorious person he meant was Mr. — SIR — LORD — (no. Mr. — SIR — whether a Lord or not, it did not matter a jot, nor did he care a farthing) — ADAM.

Wit and words certainly dropped from this speaker with the fluency and sparklingness of the liquid by which he had previously pretended to have been disabled from discharging his oratorical duty. He charmed the audience; and from the rapturous and literally unanimous applause, with which one of his sallies suddenly made the hall resound, may be inferred the nature of the topics and thoughts the most likely to strike at the feelings of any numerous set of men.

Mr. JOHN ADAM thanked the meeting in the name of his father. The health of that Gentleman, and the HONORABLE COMPANY'S CIVIL SERVICE were then given from that chair.

On the mention of THE MERCHANTS OF CALCUTTA, from the same quarter, we looked, but in vain, for that Gentleman in whose character is combined every quality that distinguishes that respectable body of men: whose extent and brilliancy of speculation, as well as constant and amiable exertion of liberality, have thrown such a lustre on pursuits specially devoted to interests; whose name has been connected with every land or sea undertaking from Calcutta since twenty years; whose presence has more than once suggested the propriety of the association of his name with the present toast; and whose acts of private or public beneficence are so numerous that we would readily plead guilty to the eventual charge of having not recorded even all those of the latter description in our humble columns.

Dr. Brown, we think, proposed THE MEMORY OF BURNS, on whose literary merits and personal character he ably descanted at full length.

We quitted the Hall at this stage of the festivity; but from the high spirits and good humoured jollity in which we left still about a hundred and fifty persons there, we have no doubt that many more pleasing sentiments were expressed, and many more good things uttered. Even those which we had the pleasure of hearing we are far from having stated all here. Had we wished to accomplish as much, we should have left ourselves no room in our present publication for any other topics.

We recollect for instance the drinking the health of COLONEL DOYLE, who returned thanks with a most lively and complimentary allusion to the perseverant character of the Scotch. We also recollect a few good songs, especially two from one of the gentlemen who officiated as Stewards. We cannot conclude however; we cannot allude to this last gentleman, without offering our thanks for the attentions who made every one, who sat within his reach, spend so pleasant an evening in the sphere of his hospitable affability and active politeness.

### Chowringhee Theatricals.

We observe that the Farce, or to designate it more correctly, the admirable Three-act Comedy of *The Liar*, and the Burlesque Tragedy of *Bombastes Furioso*, are the Pieces selected for performance at the Chowringhee Theatre on Friday next.

We understand that the former will afford us the pleasure of witnessing the representation of a legitimate and highly comic character. Young Wiling, by a gentleman whose exertion in the higher departments of the Drama, in *Zanga* and in *Sir Giles Overreach* have been crowned with such pre-eminent success. We have no doubt but that the happy result of his present undertaking will increase the similarity between this distinguished Amateur and the celebrated Actor at home, to whom he has been liken'd. All our readers may not be aware that Kean's Comic representations are only to be equalled by his Tragic performances.

In *Bombastes Furioso*, a high treat is prepared for the lovers of mirth, in the laughter-exciting representative of "King Autexon inouy, Elect the Great," whose return to this jovial court, after so long an absence, will, we trust, be greeted by an overflowing audience.

### Expedition to the Persian Gulph.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

In your Journal of Friday last, I perceive you have animadverted on the crowded state of the transports equipped from Bombay for the Expedition to the Persian Gulph, and by your style and tone, as well as that of your Correspondent, who signs himself A COMMANDER, it would appear that the Superintending Authorities at that Port stood in need of Nautical information from this.

I am ready to admit Sir, that Calcutta, as the seat of the Supreme British Authority in India, has just claim to precedence, but I cannot admit that it has any clear and unequivocal title to superior wisdom, energy, or discernment, over either of the other presidencies; and permit me to inform you that on the Expedition to the Red Sea, the Isle of France, and Java, the superior equipment of the division of Transports, &c. &c. which sailed from Bombay was so evidently manifest, that I certainly never anticipated that Instructions how to equip Transports, or to allot Troops, would be ever tendered by the Editor or Correspondent of a Calcutta Paper gratis, to assist the efforts, of a long and well established Naval Station, and the only one in British India which, as a Naval Station, possesses real efficiency.

I fear, Sir, that since the launch of a 74 Gun Ship from this Port you are induced, with many others, to imagine that Calcutta has pretensions to establish its Naval Superiority, over the resources of a Port whose single efforts, have, unaided, provided for and preserved the superiority of His Majesty's Fleets over that of his Enemies in India, for the last century, without the slightest assistance or support from this proud Emporium, whose commerce has even been protected in its own waters, by armaments equipped from that little Island.

I am not quite satisfied with the correctness of the private information, quoted as the foundation for your remarks on the equipment of the Transports, proceeding to the Persian Gulph, and conceive it not unlikely that some material misstatement may have occurred.

I am, Sir,

A FRIEND TO MERIT ON EITHER SIDE OF INDIA;

Calcutta, Dec. 7th 1819.

Editor's Note.—We can only assure our Correspondent to whose Letter we have given place, that we can vouch for the accuracy of the private information with which we have been furnished from Bombay, and challenge its disproof,—that we are aware, as well as our Correspondent, of the superiority of Bombay to all the other ports of India as a Naval Station, and that we admit its capacity to furnish the requisite vessels for such an Expedition more readily perhaps than any other place on this side of the Cape. All these considerations however, tend only to strengthen and confirm our idea of the mismanagement that has been we think so clearly and satisfactorily pointed out.

The COMMANDER, whose Letter we printed in our Journal of Friday last, forgot to add the number of the crew of the *Hannah*, to the number of the troops, on board her, viz. about sixty men, which would give the whole proportion of room about one ton per man, or considerably less than was allowed to African Slaves on board the Liverpool and Guinea Traders, two of these wretched slaves having three tons space allowed for their accommodation.

### Musical Novelty.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

Your zeal in the cause of Science generally, and the critical knowledge which you evince of Music as one of the most attractive of these, particularly,—has induced me, with the assistance of a Musical and Mechanical Friend to draw up for your columns, a short article which I feel persuaded you will have great pleasure in giving to your Readers; and if it adds to their gratification, or tends in the remotest way to do justice to an Invention neither generally known or appreciated here, you will no doubt be sufficiently pleased with our labours, and we shall be amply rewarded.

Calcutta, Dec. 6, 1819.

Your's &c.

S. D.

### THE SOSTENENTE.

The Piano Forte, from its great extent of gamut, has long held a high rank in the estimation of musicians, as an instrument capable by its extensive combinations of producing the finest effects of harmony; and it has ever been a desideratum to overcome its only defect, and to render it perfect by giving it a continuity of note, similar to the Organ, Flute, or Violin. Its present construction, admirably adapted for quick movements, fails in slow airs and lengthened notes to express the swell, or holding of the note; this has been remedied in a small degree by in-

creasing the capacity of the sounding board and multiplying the wires to 3 for each note, but tho' this has much improved the intensity of the sound, yet the note is still limited to the vibration which remains after the wires have been struck.

This very important object has engaged the attention of ingenious mechanists for half a century, without much success, till the present period. The Harpsichord, the original Instrument of the Piano Forte kind (a Harp laid on one side and adapted to be played with keys), had some years ago attached to it a contrivance somewhat similar to a violin bow; a silk band, worked with a Pedal, passed rapidly over the surface of the strings without touching them except during the vibration of the string when struck which was just touched by the silk bow and gave forth a beautiful tone. This was introduced along with the exhibition of Walker's Great Orrery at the Hay-Market Theatre, and called the Music of the Spheres, and certainly with the dramatic effect of the heavenly bodies in motion, the whole had a most sublime effect. This, however, could not be adapted to the modern Piano Forte, strung as it is with wire. The Harpsichord was strung with cat-gut, and the adapting of a bow to such strings was obviously enough suggested by the Violin, without any great stretch of mechanical genius, and this fact is the more satisfactorily proved, as with the cat-gut-strings ceased all attempts to imitate the notes of that instrument.

The *Sostenente* is a Piano Forte, furnished with the additional means of holding or sustaining the note, which its name significantly implies. This latter object is effected by means of a cylindrical ruler or rod of wood somewhat tapered at one end, laid in a direction across and over the strings, having a groove cut in it opposite to each set of strings, in which is placed a little hank of silk, terminated at one end with three silks threads, one passed round each wire of the set in the manner of a loop, and the other by a single silk thread which is attached to a wooden spring connected with the key. A pedal worked by the foot sets in rotatory motion, the cylindrical rod of wood; and a pressure on the key tightening the silk thread, communicates a vibration, by the friction of the hank of silk on the rod, to the string, and produces a continuous note equally novel and surprising. The apparent inadequacy of this mere application of a silk thread to the wire, compared with the extraordinary effect produced by it, is we think one of the most wonderful improvements we have ever witnessed, and we do not hesitate to give our opinion that it will form an epocha in the construction of Musical Instruments, of singular importance. As an effort of mechanical invention it bears the stamp of great originality, having been led to by no first steps of any of its principles; no guide or clue of any former contrivance whatever, is at all to be discovered, it is wholly and entirely new.

In endeavouring to trace the principle of what we have just described, it will be necessary to notice that there are at present known 4 distinct species of sound produced by the vibration of a string when agitated. The 1st is by a stroke, such as in the Harp, Guitar, Piano Forte, and Violin, *pizzicato*; The 2d by a bow drawn across the strings, as in the Violin *proper*; 3d by a bow drawn across the strings very lightly; and 4th by the bow drawn across the strings as in the 2d example, the string being at the same time very lightly touched. The effect of the silk thread on the wires of the *Sostenente* is, we conceive, productive usually of the 3d species of sound; is capable of the 2d and even of the 4th; very great delicacy and skill, however, is requisite for the production of the 4th, and not a little of the 2d species. A performer on the Piano Forte, until accustomed to the delicacy of the touch, will, by too sudden pressure and relief of the keys, pass from one species of tone into another; but we are convinced that a skilful player can imitate at pleasure almost every instrument in the orchestra; nay, he can imitate one far surpassing any of them, the Eolian Harp, "whose wildly soothing sounds, borne on the ambient air, enchant the most insensible of hearers." Never, till now, were the evanescent tones of this Fairy Instrument imitated, or attempted to be laid hold of.

The Invention is still in its infancy, and the obvious application of the principle to glass goblets and metal bells, steel forks, and every species of vibrating Instruments, affords a wide field of hope to the speculative mind; the long-acknowledged insufficiency of any means to produce a bass sufficiently powerful to give effect to a large assemblage of musicians at an Oratorio may by this discovery perhaps be entirely remedied. Chamber Organs, we are convinced, will be entirely superseded by the *Sostenente*, and that at an expence to trifling to form any consideration. In short, we conceive, that this Instrument may claim the merit, by its singular simplicity and effect, of being one of the most wonderful discoveries of modern times.

### For Persons Born in India.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

Through the medium of your Journal I am anxious to suggest, to the consideration of a numerous and in many instances a very interesting portion of this community, a subject intimately connected with their future respectability and comfort.

I look around me, Sir, and behold a large number of persons, who owe their existence to Europeans having come into this country, and who from circumstances have not the advantages of an European Education, notwithstanding they possess minds, which, properly led, are capable of being improved, I conceive, to an indefinite extent, whatever some persons may think to the contrary. I perceive a vast quantity of intellect wholly unimproved, and an entire ignorance existing on many subjects with which most English boys are familiar even from infancy. I write not thus to blame any: I wish to rouse those whose cause I now advocate, to a true sense of their destiny in the scale of human beings, and I long to see Bacon, Newtons, Lockes and Herschels, rise up from amongst them, men of cultivated minds, who by the successful exercise of their natural powers may for ever silence groundless prejudice. I believe, Sir, that the Great Father of Men has made of one blood all nations to dwell on the face of the earth.

It will be allowed that, next to moral worth, knowledge stamps a value on the human character. It is this, that distinguishes the highly favoured spot whence most Europeans in this country have emanated, and this it is that marks their footsteps, wherever they go. But from whence, excepting from their innumerable Institutions, have Englishmen derived originally their knowledge? The various works of Science and the Arts derived their births, or have been fostered under the venerable shade of some frequented College, or some well-supported School of Modern Science. It has been under the instruction, and from witnessing the experiments of some Public Lecturer in Philosophy and the Arts, that English Authors have acquired, or perfected, that knowledge which they have so interestingly exhibited to their inquisitive readers.

I am affected with the contrast when I look around me, and though I not unfrequently meet with Works on Nature and Art, I look in vain for that peculiar mode of Instruction which comes thus recommended, and which, I assume as the source of most of that knowledge that distinguishes the European from the Asiatic.

Impressed with the conviction of the necessity of a public Institution, expressly to provide the means of instruction in General Science, for those born in India, who speak the English language in preference to the vernacular tongues, I would recommend it to them as most immediately concerned, to provide for a Course of Lectures to be given on every branch of human knowledge, and that it may not be of a transient nature, but placed on a permanent foundation, these Lectures should be connected with an Institution where their young men may be regularly educated, as in Colleges at home. Some writer before me, has said: "We have Colleges for Hindoos, and for Musselmans, but none for Country-born." And why? Because certainly, no one has yet come forward to propose it, or to suggest a plan to carry it into effect. Ample provision is made for the perfection and perpetuity of Oriental Literature;—none, for the introduction of Science. The time is at hand, I trust, to efface this opprobrium of a Literary and Scientific people. Let the persons chiefly interested come forward to commence the undertaking; and it must succeed. Means will be furnished, if zealously pursued, and the result will not be more striking than beneficial. When once the minds of the young are furnished with elementary Science, it will be cultivated in after life; and tho' placed in remote and unconnected regions, each one will

"Find tongues in trees, books in the running brooks,  
"Sermons in stones, and good in every thing."

The ample stores of Nature will not be poured out in vain. Stars, trees, fruits and flowers, birds, beasts, fishes, insects, and even stones, will furnish matter for entertainment and admiration. The infinitely diversified page of the wonderful works of God, will be read; and in all, beauty and harmony will be discovered by the enraptured mind. I could add much more, but will only say, it is a plan fraught with expectation to those whose lot may be to live and die in this country, to the Parent State in Europe, and to the inhabitants of India here.

The Institution may be named THE ANGLO ASIATIC INSTITUTION OF SCIENCE AND LITERATURE CHIEFLY DESIGNED FOR PERSONS BORN IN INDIA.

Premises should be obtained for the education of a number of boys, say a hundred or more, apartments should be provided for the Head or Master who superintends it: for a Museum in which to deposit every thing connected with Natural History that can be obtained, especially the products of this country. Apparatus for a complete course of Lectures should be procured from England, as they cannot be made here; a Library of Books, on Arts, Science, and Literature. A spacious Garden should be attached for the purposes of Medical and Scientific Botany, and besides the Lectures given to the Students properly so called, a regular course might be given to the Public, who might wish to support the Institution by their Subscriptions.

Two things only, I apprehend, are necessary to the completion of the plan, viz. competent persons to conduct it, and sufficient funds.

As to the first, the Institution generally should be under the management of Trustees, and the internal, under a Superintendent. One or two Masters would be competent to it, adopting the most approved



and practical parts of the modern mode of education in Europe. It is obvious that such persons must be amply remunerated for their services. This is but reasonable. One Gentleman at least, I know, who would cheerfully come forward to this work, if encouraged; one whose education, habits, and desire to labour on a large scale for a good object, would warrant such an engagement. Others, when necessary, could be provided in due time.

The second requisite is Funds. On this subject, but little need be said in the present stage of the business. The expense must be considerable; no qualified European could be expected to undertake it, without adequate remuneration; but as the population is large, if some of the more opulent would patronize it on the broad scale of utility, and the desire of doing good, the first expenses of the Institution might soon be met, and the annual expenditure should be borne chiefly by those who either send their Children for instruction, or who attend the Public Lectures for their own benefit.

I shall for the present close my Communication, making, however, one request, and I know that this is consonant to the wishes of many well disposed Englishmen.

The request is, that some appropriate term be suggested, whereby that class of the community intended may henceforth be designated. The name of *Country born* is not sufficiently definite; and I apprehend it has been too frequently employed as intending something reproachful. Should no objection be started, and no other name suggested, I shall continue to use, at least, till a better occur, the name of *Anglo Asiatics*.

I am, Sir, your's, &c.

A FRIEND TO THE ANGLO-ASIATICS.

Calcutta, }  
Dec. 8, 1819. }

P. S.—Should any Gentleman of the class intended, desire to communicate with the Writer of this Letter, he can do so with real name and address to be left at your Office.

## Note of Thanks to the Indian Army:

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

I have just read in your Paper of October 12th, a Letter signed "ONE OF THE LATE 5TH DIVISION OF THE ARMY OF THE DECCAN." Of that Letter, though written in praise of Colonel Adams, that Officer has I think the justest reason to complain, if it be admitted that "praise undeserved, is satire in disguise."

The Writer of the Letter under consideration, in claiming for Colonel Adams, the honorable distinction of Parliamentary Thanks, endeavours simply to shew "that if the ancient usage of Parliament was departed from on the principle assumed by Lord Liverpool, no Officer in India had a better right to claim its application to himself than Colonel Adams." His endeavours have proved successful.

I admit, however, in the 1st place, "that Colonel Adams had the honor to command a Division of the Army of the Deccan, consisting of at least 13,000 fighting men."

I admit in the 2nd place, "that Colonel Adams had the good fortune to bestow on the Pindaries, the most signal chastisement they received during the campaign, in which, they lost more than 1000 men killed." Major Lushington with the 4th Madras Cavalry only killed about 850, and this was done previous to the forming of the Army of the Deccan. Colonel Adams's merit therefore in the 2nd instance, cannot be denied.

I admit, "that the Troops at Nagpore, whose conduct was the admiration of all India, formed a part of the 5th Division under his command." I never heard, however, and do not believe that Colonel Adams had the slightest share in the arrangements for the battle, or the execution of them.

Captain Fitzgerald's romantic gallantry would seem foreign to the subject; that needs not to be acknowledged which never has been disputed. May that Officer long enjoy the laurels which he has so nobly earned. The comparison of Captain Fitzgerald with Captain Staunton, appears uncalled for and invidious. Your Correspondent has said nothing of the Madras Troops engaged in that affair, neither will I—their actions speak for themselves.

The Letter Writer says—"Mr. Canning in his Speech congratulates Colonel Smith on placing the legitimate sovereign on the throne of Suttarah, in following up Bajee Row with such vigor as to cause him to become an insignificant fugitive and lastly a captive. What ridiculous nonsense and barefaced misrepresentation."

Yet Brigadier General Smith undoubtedly did restore the Rajah of Suttarah to his throne—undoubtedly did pursue Bajee Row with vigor, and tho' the latter part of Mr. Canning's proposition is not strictly true, I see no grounds for pronouncing the whole of it ridiculous nonsense, nor the misrepresentation of part of it as barefaced or wilful.

Again,—“It is generally known and acknowledged by a Correspondent in your Journal lately, that the defeat of Bajee Row by Colonel Adams on the 17th of April, was the cause of his abandoning further resistance as fruitless, and induced him to offer terms of submission very shortly after to Sir John Malcolm.”

Denial is to this a sufficient answer, because it is merely bold language supported by neither fact or argument—"Credat Judens Apella." I say thus much, notwithstanding the authority of "a Correspondent in your Journal."

On such an expression as this—"Such also I have reason to believe is the opinion of the Highest Authority in India," I shall only remark that nothing can be more unfair in argument, than to leave an impression upon a point which cannot be proved or disproved, and instead of assertion to deal out insinuation.

The Writer goes on to say,—“It ought to be remembered, that Colonel Adams, in his pursuit of Bajee Row, had entered upon a theatre of operations with which he was previously perfectly unacquainted. It therefore required the exertion of the utmost sagacity and ability to come up with an enemy, like that of which he was in pursuit.”—Admitted:

“That he possessed these essential qualities of a General in an eminent degree, is proved from the circumstance of another force being within hearing of his Artillery, when Colonel Adams attacked the Ex-Peishwa, without their knowing that Bajee Row was in their neighbourhood, though it appeared that he had been within a few miles of them the day before.”

Had the Writer of this paragraph been a Gentleman anxious for correct information, I should think that he might easily have obtained it in the late 5th Division of the Deccan; but if, contrary to my assumption, he had no opportunity of knowing the truth, prudence one would have imagined, should have forbid him to guess at it.

The truth is, 1st.—That on the 14th of April, Colonel Adams, tho' about the Hingun Ghaut, was ignorant of the real situation of Bajee Row, though he had been for ten days, only forty miles distant from him, at Panderkowna. 2nd.—That about the 7th, Colonel Adams communicated to all his Brother Generals (and made no secret of it in camp) his decided belief that Bajee Row was making for Hindostan by Booranpore. 3rd.—That Brigadier General Doveton, though at Dogaum, treble the distance off, had better intelligence and made for Panderkowna by long marches in the straightest route. 4th.—That Colonel Adams obtained his first information as to the true position of Bajee Row from Brigadier General Doveton, who at the same time suggested to him the propriety of reaching Panderkowna about a certain time. 5th.—That Bajee Row, on the 14th of April, hearing of the approach of Brigadier General Doveton's Force, started in a north-western direction. 6th.—That on the 15th, he learnt Colonel Adams' march for Panderkowna, which I have before mentioned to have been suggested by Brigadier General Doveton. 7th.—That Bajee Row, immediately doubled back for Panderkowna, hoping to escape before Brigadier General Doveton reached it. 8th.—That on the 16th at Ghanthungee, Bajee Row discovered, by a chance foraging party, his miscalculation upon the movements of Brigadier General Doveton, who was closely nearing him. 9th.—That in the greatest alarm at the vicinity of that vigilant commander, he immediately made another turn for the village of Soone, trusting by a rapid march to pass it before Colonel Adams' arrival, though he must have known that Colonel Adams was making for that very point.

Thus, Bajee Row preferred the risk of meeting with the Force of Colonel Adams, to that of meeting with the Force of Brigadier General Doveton. At the village of Soone, Colonel Adams met with Bajee Row, and gave to him a most important check. Though the Army of the Ex-Peishwa was not a whit less efficient after the defeat than it was before it, the check enabled Brigadier General Doveton to complete what he had so happily begun.

By an incessant and vigorous pursuit for five days and four nights successively over the Mahose jungle (a jungle never, I believe, before traversed by Europeans) during which time the Force marched upwards of 120 miles, from Panderkowna to beyond Tulner, never deviating from the precise track of the Ex-Peishwa owing to Brigadier General Doveton's admirable information the Army of Bajee Row became necessarily so dispirited, that his soldiers and followers deserted him literally by thousands, and he then indeed became a mere "deserted fugitive."

So far then from Brigadier General Doveton's "being" ignorant of Bajee Row's situation, it would appear that he was the only Officer who had true and certain information of it. That when Colonel Adams attacked the Ex-Peishwa, His Ex-Highness was in the exact situation contemplated by Brigadier General Doveton, when he gave to him the cruel alternative, the choice of difficulty, whether he would risk collision with the Troops of Madras or Bengal.

After the above-mentioned pursuit to Tulner, Brigadier General Doveton returned to Jaulnah, refreshed his Troops for two days, again renewed his harassing operations, and lastly drove Bajee Row to seek terms with Brigadier General Sir John Malcolm near Asseerghur.

Occasionally, Sir, dates speak volumes. The date of Colonel Adams's check was the 17th of April; the date of Bajee Row's surrender the 3rd of June. What Forces harassed him during the intermediate period? Brigadier General Doveton's, and Brigadier General Doveton's alone.

Your Correspondent further says—"The Officer at the head of that Force has justly obtained the character of an excellent Commander." I beg leave to compliment him upon publishing such a truism.

Colonel Adams brilliantly distinguished himself at Chaundah; so did Brigadier General Pritzler, in the capture of Seenghur and many other fortresses.

Before quitting the subject of your Correspondent's Letter, I must take the liberty of pointing out to him a misrepresentation, which I will not call barefaced, because I am convinced it was unintentional. He says, "Accordingly we are gratified in observing the names of Colonels Munro, Malcolm, Smith, and Pritzler recorded in the Vote of Thanks."

Now Parliament did thank Brigadier General Doveton, whose name your Correspondent has omitted, and it did not thank Brigadier General Pritzler, whose name your Correspondent has inserted.

I take leave Sir, of ONE OF THE LATE 5TH DIVISION OF THE ARMY OF THE DECCAN, trusting confidently to his candour, that all his communications to a Journal so popular as your's has become in every part of India, which may cause an interest in others to answer, will be hereafter clear, and not as in his last Letter rhapsodical and unconnected.

I am Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Camp Jaulnah, November 11, 1819.

S—

### Urbanity in Controversy.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

Many of the Controversial Letters in your Journal between the Advocates for the New and Old School are written with great spirit and animation; and have afforded much amusement to your Readers on this side of India, where your labours meet with flattering support, and excite considerable interest. It is therefore to be regretted when any of the generally able contributors to your columns indulge in a spirit of petulance and acrimony, ill-suited to discussions which ought to be conducted with manliness and candour.

My attention has been excited by the perusal of a Letter signed VEXILLARIUS, dated Calcutta the 20th of October, from which I shall content myself with quoting the first line only—"I have just done perusing another silly, Field-Officer-like production."

Now, Sir, the most obvious construction we can put on this is, that "silly" and Field-Officer-like are brought forward as, in a great degree, synonymous, that the Letter signed a VETERAN is "silly" and (consequently) "Field-Officer-like."

This is but a peevish, hasty, inconsiderate opening, I should conceive VEXILLARIUS to be a young Gentleman of "fine parts" as the phrase runs; one who sits down in full confidence of his own powers, to dash off a letter to the Editor of the Calcutta Journal, and in imagination, to extinguish VETERAN at a single blow. He seems to have an excellent memory, and quotes with considerable adroitness and ability: It is at all times gratifying to see the studies of our earlier days not forgotten amidst the bustle of professional avocations in this country. I would only recommend to VEXILLARIUS the application of that common but useful proverb "*Ne quid nimis*." Let him be moderate, and forbear to sully his paragraphs with so much uncharitable virulence as too often obtrudes itself in the Letter under consideration.

On the general merits of the question I do not presume to touch. While the discussion of it is carried on with a liberal and gentlemanly spirit, the numerous supporters of your Journal on the western side of India will, I am convinced, be quite satisfied to leave it to the wit and ability of their Military Brethren in Bengal. But let the flashes of their wit, Sir, dazzle without wounding. I have no doubt VEXILLARIUS has read with pleasure; and might, in candour, take a lesson from that admirable scene in Sheridan's Comedy of *The Rivals*, where Sir Lucius O'Trigger, in his capacity of second to Acres, will not permit a single scurrilous or even violent expression to *profane* (as the gallant Hibernian would have termed it) the dignity of the challenge; concluding with a little gem of advice, which is equally applicable to wit, and might often be recollected with advantage in real life, "Let your courage be as *keen* but as *polished* as your sword."

I remain, Sir, &c.

Poona, Nov. 16, 1819.

A BOMBAY FIELD OFFICER.

P. S. I have just observed that from the manner of printing the first line of VEXILLARIUS's Letter, the word "Field-Officer-like" may

have reference to some previous signature, in which case my objection to that sentence on the grounds specified, is divested of its weight; though still it is exceptionable as far as regards a want of common politeness to the writer of any Letter signed "A FIELD OFFICER;" and I must continue to think the general style adopted by VEXILLARIUS much to be regretted.

### Sir R. K. Porter's Travels in Persia.

We have met with a short Notice under this head, in the New Monthly Magazine for June 1819, which we have selected as likely to be of high interest to Indian readers; but it abounds with so many inaccuracies amidst its truths, that it becomes a duty to point them out, which we have done in the least objectionable form of Notes: The Prospectus, if it may be so called, is as follows:

In our Journal for February, 1819, we had the pleasure to lay before our readers a detailed and connected account of the travels of the unfortunate Mr. Seetzen, accompanied, it is true, with great regret, that not only so large a portion of his valuable labours has been irretrievably lost, but that even those parts of his journals which have been preserved, have been so long withheld from the patient curiosity of the public. We have now the satisfaction of giving them a foretaste of an entertainment preparing for them, by a British traveller and artist, of which they are not likely to be disappointed. The gentleman to whom we allude, is Sir Robert Kerr Porter, who is already honorably known, both in England and on the Continent, by his skill as an artist, and his talents as a writer. He possesses uncommon facility in the rapid and faithful delineation of the objects before him. It is therefore very fortunate, that finding himself in circumstances, which enabled him to provide himself with every thing requisite for the enterprise, he resolved on making a journey from St. Petersburg to Persia. According to the latest accounts from Bagdad, dated November, 1818, he had completed his picturesque tour through Persia, and arrived at Bagdad; on his return, in October, 1818. He brought in his port folio, a treasure of very beautiful and detailed drawings of Persian antiquities, some of which have never been drawn before, or but very imperfectly, and in too hasty a manner. The drawings of Baki-Bostan, (1) and Bisutun, (2) partly represent objects entirely new to us. He has also made admirable drawings of the antiquities of Persepolis, Nakshi-Rustum, and Murgheb, mostly on a far larger scale than has been done by Sir William Ouseley, or any preceding traveller, the incomparable Niebuhr not excepted. (3) Now, though these drawings differ in many particulars from the designs of former travellers, yet no doubt is entertained of their fidelity and accuracy, by the distinguished connoisseur of these antiquities, and of the east, Claudius James Rich, Esq. (4) the East India Company's resident at Bagdad, or

(1) This is a typographical error for Tauck-i-Bostan, or the Arch of the Garden, a beautiful spot near Kermanshab, the frontier town between Persia and Mesopotamia, of which the best published account is to be found in Sir John Malcolm's History of Persia.

(2) Bisutun is the name given to some sculptured rocks in the vicinity of this place, of which the best account is also that of Sir John Malcolm.

(3) Niebuhr, as a Traveller, fully deserves the epithets of accurate and venerable, as given to him by Rennell, and almost the term incomparable, bestowed here, if it be applied to the extraordinary qualifications as a Traveller which he united in his own person; but if meant of his Drawings, and particularly those of Persepolis, and Nakshi Rustam, which are in the same place, it is extremely inapplicable. When Niebuhr's party left Denmark, there were six or seven persons attached to it, as Professors of the different Sciences which it was thought might be advanced or illustrated by their voyage. Among these was a Mr. Baurenfeind, as a Professed Artist. He died in Yemen, and when Niebuhr left Bombay for Persia, to return to England by that route, he was the only surviving person of the party. Although he drew sufficiently well for all the purposes of conveying faithful outlines &c. the whole of his Views after leaving Bombay are inferior to those before them; and those of Persia particularly are not to be compared to the Drawings of Le Brun who preceded, nor of Mr. Morrier who followed him.

(4) There is not perhaps any where to be found throughout Asia or India, a more distinguished connoisseur of Eastern Antiquities, than Mr. Rich at Bagdad. His Researches on Babylon, which are already before the world, bear ample testimony to his skill in this particular; but Mr. Rich has not, we believe, visited Persepolis; and though he would be able no doubt to pronounce on the probable accuracy of particular parts, with reference to previous Drawings of the same subject, yet personal inspection can alone decide on the accuracy of resemblance between a copy and its original.



by his private secretary, Mr. Charles Bellier, (5) a learned Orientalist, by birth a Swede, who was recommended in 1814, by Mr. Von Hammer, at Vienna, in his letters to whom, Mr. B. expresses himself as follows:—

"We have no doubt, but that Sir Robert has made his drawings with the most conscientious accuracy, since, many drawings which he has made here in Babylon, (6) such as the Tomb of Sobek, (7) Abarkufe, (8) several Babylonian cylinders, &c. are uncommonly faithful and correct." He will, probably, return to St. Petersburg this summer, (1819), and immediately proceed to the publication of his picturesque tour through Persia. We may expect a rich treat; and the judicious collector of ancient Persian and Median monuments, Mr. Hoeck, librarian, of Göttingen, (see his prize essay, published 1818, *De Monumentis veteris Persie et Medie*), will here find valuable materials for his great work."

In the course of November, last year, Mr. Rich, accompanied by Sir Robert Ker Porter, and Mr. Bellier, made an excursion to Hilla, and the remains of ancient Babylon, from which they returned to Bagdad, on the 24th of November. All the heaps of ruins and bricks were examined with the greatest care. Besides the very detailed drawings, Sir Robert drew in the presence of Mr. Rich, a plan of the whole extensive plain, upon a much larger scale than it had been previously taken by Mr. Rich. The ruins of Ali Haima, (9) and Namrud (10) were also marked upon it, by which the learned will be enabled to judge, whether these two ruins were within the city walls of the ancient Babylon, or not; and to see whether Major Rennell, or Mr. Rich, is in the right. Sir Robert has, doubtless, left Bagdad, without stopping there, and proceeded by way of Kurdistan to Tabris, whence he returns to St. Petersburg.

(5) This gentleman's name is Bellino, and not Bellier. He is a person of extraordinary talents as an Orientalist and General Philologist, and pursues these objects under Mr. Rich's protection, with the most promising zeal and ability.

(6) This Babylon should have been Baghdad, and must be an error of the transcribers, as the places subsequently enumerated are all in the neighbourhood of Baghdad, and have no connection whatever with the Babylonian remains.

(7) This is Zobeida, the favorite wife of Haroun-el-Raschid, whose Tomb is shown on the west bank of the Tigris. It is a small Mohammedan structure of some peculiarity, but no beauty.

(8) This should be Akkerkoof, evidently an error of the press. It is a large isolated brick tower, situated about four hours' ride to the N. W. of Baghdad, also on the west of the Tigris. It has been described by the earliest Travellers, from Benjamin of Tudela, and Pietro della Valle, down to the most recent Voyagers who have passed that way, and was long taken for the Tower of Babel, which has now, however, given place to a ruin having more undeniable claims.

(9) This should be Al-Haimar. Ali was, no doubt, a name given by an ignorant transcriber, to whom this word was perhaps more familiar than the Arabic article. It is the name given to a large mass of solid remains of brick work, which there is every reason to believe is a portion of the celebrated wall of Babylon, the very existence of which has been so often and so strenuously denied, in opposition to the testimony of the most accurate of the ancient historians.

10. This is the celebrated Tower of Babel of the Hebrews, or Temple of Belus of the Greeks, and is now known by the name of Birs Nimrod. Mr. Rich has given Drawings of the ruin, and spoken largely and accurately of it in his two separate Memoirs on Babylon, the first of which was published in the *Mémoires de l'Orientat* Vienna, the second in London. Capt. Lockett of this Presidency, whose work is in the press, we believe, has gone however, still more largely and deeply into the subject of the Babylonian remains than any other person that we know of,—and among other objects this of the Birs Nimrod, has occupied a large portion of his erudition as well as actual survey.

We feel sufficient pleasure in furnishing such information on those subjects as accidental local acquaintance has thrown in our way, to disregard entirely the observations of those who would decry this practice, as originating in vanity and self-adulation. The only object of all public writing should be to propagate truth and detect error, and in the present instance, if we had not visited the places described, and known the characters enumerated personally, we should not have possessed sufficient information on those subjects either to discover inaccuracies or to rectify them, but have sent them forth like our contemporary of the Government Gazette (the only Orientalist we believe among all the Journalists here) as tacitly acknowledging them to be accurate to the best of our knowledge and belief, and have thus assisted in multiplying rather than in correcting the errors of others.

## Original Poetry.

We are enabled, by a Letter which reached us yesterday from our Poetic Friend at Muttra, signed W— to state that the writer of the Pieces under that signature in the *Calcutta Journal* was not Lieutenant Kerr, of the 12th N. I. as supposed by another of our Correspondents from this station; as our Friend W— himself communicates to us the death of Lieutenant William Kerr, on the 18th of November, at Muttra, adding that from his amiable character, his loss is deeply regretted by a large circle of Brother-Officers and Friends. He has at the same time transmitted to us the following melancholy, but eloquent and impressive lines, which as he desires their early insertion from their containing an allusion to a recent event, were no doubt conceived and embodied over the grave of his lamented Friend, with whose fate his own seems to have been so associated, as to have led to the error which we have here principally aimed to rectify. The Lines are as follows:—

### CHURCH-YARD REFLECTIONS.

'Tis night!—No longer fashioned to beguile,  
My altered features wear the lying smile,  
The smile assumed on purpose to deceive  
The friends whose kindness would my woes relieve.  
While o'er my head, portentous meteors play,  
Now, dark Despondency resume thy sway,  
On this wild heart thy deadly stamp impress,  
And fond it o'er my bosom's wilderness  
There nought remains to cheer the leafless gloom;  
There Pleasure's tender flowers no longer bloom—  
They died beneath Affliction's withering blast—  
And Hope who lingered long, retires at last;  
She loves the face of Sorrow to survey  
Brightening before her joy-inspiring ray  
But shrinks, to see her torch's powerless glare  
Gleam on the livid features of Despair—

And thou!—above whose lowly grave I bend  
To mourn the Man, the Poet, and the Friend!  
—Still must my mind revert to happier days,  
Ere Friendship's moon had shewn her waning phase—  
Ere cold suspicion chill'd Affection's smile  
When friendly converse could our cares beguile,  
When pleased I mark'd thy fancy's vigorous play  
By genius kindled, pour the classic lay,  
Where Learning, Taste, and Feeling's warmest glow  
Were blent together in comingling flow—  
Thou too art gone!—Regret in vain may pour  
Her wailings o'er thy tomb—thou art no more!  
Quench'd is thine ardent spirit, cold and low,  
Within the narrow house, thou slumberest now.  
But rest is there—Age! rest at last is thine;  
Would that such undisturb'd repose were mine;  
No hopeless passion's keenly-venomed dart,  
Scars thy lone slumbers with convulsive start—  
No ghastly images they fancy fill,  
Thy sleep is visionless—thy heart is still.

Oh! there are visions, which, if life they spare—  
Evince how much his grief-scar'd heart can bear,  
Who drop, by drop, has drained the cup of woe,  
And yet survives more bitter pangs to know,  
Dark are the scenes that o'er my memory roll,  
And deep the gloom that settles on my soul—  
And oh! that thought, which thrills each quivering vein,  
And shoots like phrenzy through the burning brain:  
That sends the arrested blood with sudden start  
Is cold revulsion to the shuddering heart:  
That from the breast rends the reluctant groan,  
And shakes the mind with horrors all its own—  
Till reason reels upon her tottering throne—  
Before the breeze that ushers in the day,  
The clouds of morning slowly float away,  
But not with day, disperse the thoughts that roll  
O'er my sunk spirits and depress my soul—  
I mark the brightening of the eastern sky,  
With sadden'd heart, pale cheek, and joyless eye.

Not always thus I rose with dawning light  
To curse the cheerless day, the sleepless night.  
In earlier days, this heart could bound as free  
As the light bark upon a summer sea.  
When Scotia's scenes I view'd with raptur'd eye,  
Blithe as the lark that carol'd in the sky;  
Inha'd the breeze that swept her sparkling fountains,  
Breathe'd the fresh fragrance of her heath-clad mountains;

Or stretched at noontide in the beechen grove,  
 Sung Nature's charms, or tuned the lay of Love.  
 If aught of grief I knew, it passed away  
 Like the swift shadows of an April day,  
 Short-lived and light, it never knew a morrow.  
 Soon Hope's bright sun dispell'd the clouds of Sorrow.  
 Not then my Muse with melancholy wail  
 Swell'd the dull moaning of the midnight gale,  
 Her notes of joy she flung upon the breeze,  
 And charmed the lonely hour with other strains than these;  
 Bright was her glance of rapture then, but now  
 The gloom of sadness deepens o'er her brow.  
 In vain her touch would wake the joyous lyre,  
 To plaintive murmurs sink the notes of fire;  
 The deepest tones that thrill from chords of woe  
 Suit this dark breast, where Hope hath ceas'd to glow,  
 Whence Joy hath fled, where Fancy's transient ray  
 But gilds the gloom that hastens my decay,

Muttra, Nov. 25, 1819.

W.

### STANZAS.

Written after reading the Fourth Canto of *Childe Harold*.

Farewell, but not for ever, say farewell,  
 High-minded Pilgrim, Rome and Virtue's friend;  
 Still, still, on fair Italia's sorrows dwell,  
 Her laurels rear, her bleeding fame defend:—  
 The Spartan's epitaph is not for thee:—  
 And Rome shall fall! when Byron's fame will blaze:—  
 Some soul congenial!—If such e'er can be—  
 In future ages shall adorn thy bays,  
 As thou hast Tasso's, with immortal lays.

Where are the "Men of Rome?" the grand of Soul?  
 The intellectual masters of mankind?  
 Who bent a subject world to their control,  
 Where, but within thine ardent kindred mind?  
 Beneath the vivid magic of thine eye,  
 Egeria's grove assumes celestial hues;  
 Beneath th' ennobling influence of thy sigh,  
 Love, purest Love, its ancient form renews,  
 And lives depicted by thy pensive muse:

Venice, declining Venice, though decay  
 Had sunk thy walls beneath the Ocean's bed,  
 Wert thou not named in one poetic lay  
 Save Harold's—thou wert rescued from the dead;  
 His name would raise thee flaming in his vorse,  
 Above the reach of envy or of time,  
 For 'twas his pride thy glories to rehearse,  
 Thy ancient deeds and energies sublime,  
 Thou wert the 'city of his heart,' the mistress of his rhyme.

Oh! mighty champion of the antique world!  
 Friend to the shades of heroes! dost thine eye,  
 View with a tear the sacred relics hur'd,  
 Around the plains of wither'd Italy?  
 The wild commixture of three thousand years!  
 Her statues, temples, arts, all mould'ring laid,  
 Unto thy penetrating glance appears  
 Less mournful than the human mind decay'd,  
 Italia, lost Italia's sons, in slavery's garb array'd.

Thy tuneful Ariosto's, Petrarch's shade,  
 With all the spirits of the free and wise,  
 Shall round thy laurel crown the wreath embraid,  
 "They keep his dust in Arqua where he lies;"  
 Say not Farewell, then, Poet of the Soul,  
 Still mend the world with thy instructive page,  
 Still let thy heaven-dictated numbers roll,  
 The condempn'd mental vigour of an age:  
 All that the raptur'd soul can raise, or bleeding heart assuage.

Sublimity's enraptur'd Child! farewell!  
 Loth, fearful Bard! impassion'd Muse, adieu!  
 The heart on Harold's pilgrimage shall dwell,  
 And crown his dust with wreaths of every hue:  
 Immortal minstrel! still the feeling heart,  
 Shall throb with rapture at thy ebullient lay,  
 Shall linger o'er thy page, and sigh to part—  
 Still, at the word Farewell, shall weeping say,  
 Romantic Poet of the heart! oh! deign with us to stay.

Dinapore, Nov. 6, 1819.

E. J.

Printed at the Union Press, in Grastin's Buildings, near the Bankhall and the Exchange.

### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Our Correspondent at Moorsheadabad is requested to accept our best thanks for his Communication regarding Manila, the first part of which will be delayed until the remainder is finished, as it is our wish never to publish any thing incomplete, or in the Magazine phrase "To be continued," except when the limits of our pages will not include the whole, being satisfied that the interest of all Communications are much lessened by these intervals.

### Domestic Occurrences.

#### DEATHS.

On the 29th ultimo, of the Cholera Morbus, Mrs. Juliana D'Rozario, aged 22 years.

At Madras, on the 11th ultimo, after a short but severe illness of 13 days, which she bore with Christian fortitude and resignation, Miss Anna Maria Pereira, aged 17 years and 8 months.

On board H. M. ship Minden, on the 8th ultimo, Mr. Hugh Moffat, Assistant Surgeon of the said ship.

At Negapatam, on the 6th instant, Mr. Robert Henry Leembroggen, aged 60 years, 2 months and 8 days; formerly Secretary and Treasurer to the Dutch Factory at Surat, and one of the oldest Civil Servants of the late Dutch East India Company.

At Bellary, on the 10th instant, at the House of Captain Willows, 16th Regiment, Caroline, aged 19 years, eldest Daughter of the late P. Travers, Esq. Surgeon to their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Kent and Clarence. By this premature death, her relations and friends have suffered a most severe and inconsolable loss.

At Madras, on the 16th instant, of the Cholera Morbus, Miss Maria Cecilia Blyth, after twelve hours illness, aged 14 years, 11 months and 17 days.

#### EUROPE DEATH.

The Rev. Gerald Fitzgerald, D. D. and Rector of Ardstragh, departed this life at his residence, Moyle House, County of Tyrone, on the 10th of March 1819, and in the 80th year of his age. A rare union of extraordinary qualities, rendered this learned person justly eminent. Inflexible integrity, manly candour, high spirit, and the nicest sense of truth and honor, marked his conduct as a gentleman; while the strictest morals, the purest piety, the most exemplary discharge of duty, distinguished him as a divine; and a wide range of knowledge, as deep, as extensive, refined and exalted, by taste and talent, placed him in the first rank of scholars. Although descended from an ancient and noble house, and born in remainder to large estates, yet (the entail being cut off by the fiction of law) he had in early life to contend with difficulties, until surmounted by genius and learning which obtained for him the honorable and independent situation of a Fellow of the College of Dublin. Here his political opinions, expressed by his votes at elections, proved him equally the foe of faction and corruption, and the firm friend of constitutional loyalty, and rational freedom. Not confined to the mere discharge of Academic duties—however arduous—he stepped forward the champion of Religion, (when assailed by the too popular infidelity of Payne) in an Essay on the Biblical Hebrew, by which he exposed the ignorance, and detected the fallacies of that dissipated unbeliever, who had denied the existence of any written word of God. The success of this work, which had acquired for its author, a just celebrity among the learned, induced him to undertake another auxiliary to the great cause of religion, by opening the avenues to the sacred tongue in a Hebrew grammar. This was immediately adopted by the University for the use of the students, and used there in preference to every other. When relaxing from severer studies, the subject of this memoir wooed the muses with success; and the Academic sportsman and 'injured islanders' were acknowledged by the best critics of the day to exhibit unequivocal proofs of poetic imagination, and classic purity. Raised, in the progress of time, to the Vice-Propostship of the University, he naturally expected, from his character and attainments, that the precedent established in favor of his two immediate predecessors, would have been observed in his instance, when a vacancy occurred in the Collegiate Chair. But the Government of that day held a different opinion, and appointed to the Provostship an Ex-Fellow, who had been Dr. Fitzgerald's pupil: conceiving it, no doubt, too much to concede from the patronage of the Crown to the interests of Learning, that its rewards should belong to the best entitled! In consequence, the Vice-Propost resigned his situation and retired to the country, on a living which he had refused some years before. Here, withdrawn from the world and its worthless struggles, philosophy subdued the sense of disappointment; and, in the bosom of his family, he passed the remainder of his days, in piety and peace. But before he went down to the grave, and while in a very advanced age, the ardour of his mind broke forth anew, and shed a parting lustre over his literary life. Being invited to contribute to the very laudable undertaking of Mr. Mason, for a Parochial Survey of Ireland, he furnished an admirable Statistical report of his extensive Parish, which is allowed to hold an eminent station among the best returns on similar subjects. This concluded his labours for the public, unless the constant instructions which he gave from the pulpit to his flock, in a clear, impressive, and persuasive style, and which he continued to the last, may be considered such. He lived, 'tis true, without the smiles or favour of a Court, but died possessed of that which Courts can neither give nor take away—a peaceful conscience, an unsullied name—the esteem and respect of the wise and good in this life, and the well-grounded hope in that to come, of those honors and that happiness which shall not fade away.